

# **Vulture Mill Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) Site Community Advisory Board Meeting**

Wednesday, March 19, 2003

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Desert Caballeros Western Museum classroom

21 N. Frontier Street

Wickenburg, AZ

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

### Members in attendance:

Jim Hartman  
Mitch Jackson  
Ray Johns  
Thomas Stout  
Theresa Underdown

### Members absent:

Morris Baughman  
Carl Bloomquist  
Guy Williams

### Others in attendance:

Gerald Strickland

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Alan Berg  
Dave Underdown

### ADEQ Staff in attendance:

Russell Slotnick, Project Manager  
Don Richey, Remedial Projects Unit Manager  
Monica Mascareno, Community Involvement  
Coordinator

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PIOU# 04-009

The meeting began at 6:40 p.m.

The following matters were reviewed, discussed, and decided:

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Jim Hartman, CAB co-chair, asked Monica Mascareno, ADEQ Community Involvement Coordinator, to conduct the meeting. Ms. Mascareno introduced herself and welcomed CAB members and guests. Introductions were made by all attendees.

### 2. Acceptance or changes to the September 25, 2001 and October 30, 2002 meeting minutes.

Mr. Hartman moved to accept the minutes from September 25, 2001 as presented. Thomas Stout, CAB member, seconded the motion. Theresa Underdown, CAB co-chair, moved to accept the minutes from October 30, 2002 as presented. Mr. Hartman seconded the motion. Both motions were unanimously passed.

### 3. Vote to accept Guy Williams' resignation from the CAB.

Mr. Hartman moved to accept the resignation of Guy Williams. Mr. Stout seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

4. Vote on Carl Bloomquist's membership

Mr. Hartman moved to remove Carl Bloomquist from the CAB. Mitch Jackson, CAB member, seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

5. Nomination and voting of new co-chairs

Mr. Stout nominated Jim Hartman to continue to serve as CAB co-chair for another term. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jackson. Mr. Hartman nominated Theresa Underdown to serve as CAB co-chair for another term. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stout. Both motions were unanimously passed.

6. Discussion of a possible site visit.

The CAB decided to schedule a visit to the Vulture Mill site. Don Richey, ADEQ Remedial Projects Unit Manager, and Russ Slotnick, ADEQ Project Manager, will suggest a date for the site visit in about a week's time. Ms. Mascareno will contact CAB members to finalize a visit date.

7. Update on Current Status and Activities of the Vulture Mill WQARF Site - Russell Slotnick, ADEQ Project Manager. Mr. Slotnick distributed a handout for his presentation (attached).

Mr. Slotnick described that since the last Vulture Mill CAB meeting, ADEQ had gathered some background air sampling data to determine the natural conditions at the site. On December 2, 2002, ADEQ moved to the site, to a mobile station, and began monitoring the air at the site. The data shows that the dust has been under good control.

The original scope of work included remediating the Underdown and Ringwood properties. The work areas were divided into one through five; the projected order that the construction would move. Today, lab results confirm that the contaminated soil in area one (the Underdown pasture area) has been remediated to regulatory standards. That area is now in the process of being backfilled.

Mr. Slotnick continued to describe that ADEQ has completed about 60% of the remediation in area four, the Eastern part of the upper terrace of the Underdown property. Last week, activities began in area two, the most northern piece of this property, and about 80% of the remediation has been completed there. Things are progressing very well. Aside from a few minor setbacks like some rocks temporarily restricting excavation, for the most part, this area has been remediated. The next area to be worked on will be the northern (Area 3) and southern portion (Area 5) of the Ringwood pasture

In response to Mr. Hartman's question regarding Ringwood's pasture, Mr. Slotnick explained that samples have been taken to evaluate the amount and depth of contamination at different levels of elevation in the dirt. Additional soil sampling was conducted in 2001 to further define the limits of contamination. The Ringwood and Underdown properties were divided into five excavation areas containing a total of 47 excavation cells. The five excavation areas were established based upon the projected excavation sequence prior to starting the project. The

excavation cells were delineated based on the estimated depth of contamination using the sampling data. Contaminated soil was removed to the initial designated depth for each cell. It was then sampled to determine if the cleanup goal of lead had been achieved in the soil; which is less than the required residential limit of 400 mg/kg. If the cell cleanup was not achieved, the excavation cell was divided into sub-cells and they underwent further excavation.

Mr. Slotnick added that they plan to advance through the different areas by moving the treasures from an area, proceeding to remediate that area, and then replacing the treasures back to the area. The contractors are, for the most part, on schedule, minus about two or three weeks, due to weather conditions and other minor setbacks like the rocks that affected excavation. The contractors are aggressive about continuing back onto the schedule; they are trying to find ways to work on multiple tasks at the same time, to buy part of that lost time back.

Mr. Richey added that they're working on some ideas to maximize the space in the pile. Mr. Slotnick continued to describe some of the ideas they were working on to make the best use of space, and to try to save money: the original design of the pile had a 2% or 3% drop in slope, but it's now been flattened out to contain more dirt. The storm water detention basin was originally located in the SE corner of the Underdown Lower Terrace adjacent to the consolidation pile. The current design locates the detention basin on top of the consolidation pile in the SE corner. Hence, the consolidation pile could be moved further to the south to increase the pile capacity. The existing fence line between the Underdown and Ringwood properties does not follow the Maricopa County parcel map. An agreement between property owners to move the fence back to the legal property lines has allowed the toe of the consolidation pile to be moved out further to the east, increasing the pile capacity.

Other efforts include an evaluation of whether ADEQ will be able to remediate the Schleuter and Deibel upper terrace areas, as well as the originally proposed portions of the Underdown and Ringwood properties. Mr. Richey added that after redesigning efforts, there is a higher chance that Mr. Schleuter's property, part of Mr. Deibel's property, and possibly part of the St. Clair property, may also be remediated. Funding, will of course be a factor in the progression of these efforts.

In response to Mr. Stout's inquiry, Mr. Richey explained that ADEQ is committed to the work already agreed upon with the contractors. It is unlikely that the Governor will take money away that has already been allocated for the work originally proposed. However, until the second part of the project is awarded, the money to work on the additional properties (Schleuter and Deibel) may be affected.

#### 8. Updated Community Involvement Plan

Ms. Mascareno announced that a copy of the new CIP is included in each CAB member notebook that Ms. Mascareno distributed.

#### 9. Call to the Public

Dave Underdown, member of the public and property owner, commented that the conductors and

participants of the meeting should speak up for better audibility. Ms. Mascareno suggested that a different seating arrangement may improve audibility for the next CAB meeting. Mr. Slotnick added that he will be more than willing to stand up while presenting at the next meeting.

#### 10. Future Meeting Plans

A site visit date should be planned and finalized in the next week. Ms. Underdown, CAB co-chair, remarked that she doesn't find it necessary to schedule a meeting at this time. It might be best to schedule a meeting for another three or four months.

Ms. Underdown motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Stout seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.